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Dba: TwoMedicine Health and Financial Fitness 11 employees, 10 in Montana

Thank you, Representatives, Senators, and legislative staff for listening. Hello to my fellow employers who are also trying to contribute to the legislative process.

First Point We Focus on Health

This Legislature and the State of Montana cannot ignore the challenges of Health Care Reform. The national government and most states are dealing with Health Care Reform. In the meantime, **Montana employers, including small businesses, banks, large businesses, counties, municipalities, school districts, and hospitals are creating cultures of health improvement, prevention and protection strategies.** These cultures, while not easy to create, have significant impacts on health care cost, workers compensation claims, and employee productivity. TwoMedicine is a client driven business that helps these employers empower their employees. Growing steadily, TwoMedicine has done some business in nine(9) states. We plan to expand our activity in Montana as well as other states. We see significant growth in our Montana employment, where we are based, to support our activity in other states. Employers are understanding that it is good business to help employees take back their health. Government laws are creating incentives to encourage employers and employees.

Second Point Our good neighbor, the State of Wyoming, has invested in workshops and consulting support where employers learn to effectively implement wellness at their own worksites.

The State of Wyoming hired a private business to conduct the workshops and consulting. TwoMedicine believes that this is a great way for the government, in a creative short term initiative, to contribute to the health and productivity of employer worksites. More productive, healthy businesses attract and hire people.

Third Point The Interconnectedness of Health and Financial Fitness

We don't have time to do this topic justice. You all know that your health can greatly affect your finances. You also know that your finances may have a significant effect on your health. This is an area our business addresses. Some day the government may connect Medicare, Medicaid, and Social Security through cross incentives. And employers may use incentives to link "health only" plans with retirement plans. If you are interested, the TwoMedicine staff would love to visit about these topics when there is more time.

Fourth Point Government, not management.

We believe in you, our Senators and Representatives. We look toward your leadership in writing laws. We don't expect the Governor and the Executive Branch to give you the directions for the laws. We expect government, not management.